

Delta Protection Commission

September 28, 2006

Agenda Item No. 16 (A and B), Relative to the Delta Emergency Response Summit (Summit) Facilitated by the Commission on June 26, 2006.

A. Staff summary of consistency with Commission's Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta (Management Plan) and the adopted 2006-11 Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan).

DELTA PROTECTION ACT

Chapter 1, Findings and Declarations.

Section 29702. *The Legislature further finds and declares that the basic goals of the state for the delta are the following:...*

(c) Improve flood protection by structural and nonstructural means to ensure an increased level of public health and safety.

Section 29708. *The Legislature further finds and declares that the cities, towns, and settlements within the delta are of significant historical, cultural, and economic value and that their continued protection is important to the economic and cultural vitality of the region.*

Section 29709. *The Legislature further finds and declares as follows:...*

(b) In order to protect regional, state, and national interests in the long-term agricultural productivity, economic vitality, and ecological health of delta resources, it is important that there be a coordination and integration of activities by the various agencies whose land use activities and decisions cumulatively impact the delta.

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Chapter 7, Levees, Policy 4

Local governments shall ensure that existing programs for emergency levee repair should be strengthened and better coordinated between local, State, and federal governments and shall include: interagency agreements and coordination; definition of an emergency; designation of emergency funds; emergency contracting procedures; emergency permitting procedures; and other necessary elements.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Overview of Opportunities and Threats.

The purpose of the Commission is to protect, preserve and enhance the Delta as it exists today serving multiple functions, including, but not limited to: agricultural land preservation; habitat protection; and enhancing recreational opportunities.

Opportunities for achieving the above purposes include:...
collaborate with relevant local, state, federal, and private sector entities;

Threats to the above include:...
insufficient integrated regional planning and implementation;

Strategic Work Plan Goals for Implementation of the Regional Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta.

8. Levees

Goals: Support the improvement and long-term maintenance of Delta levees by coordinating permit reviews and guidelines for levee maintenance. Develop a long-term funding program for levee maintenance. Protect levees in emergency situations. Give levee rehabilitation and maintenance the priority over other uses of levee areas.

- Pursue efforts to enhance recognition of public health and safety as a priority.*

2006/2007 Tasks...

Facilitate forums of discussion on Delta-wide emergency response and other hazard-related topics.

B. Summary of role of Commission as facilitator of continued discussions relative to emergency response and preparedness.

Consistent with discussion at the Summit:

- “Facilitate” the initial line of communication for the sharing of input between local elected officials relative to development of a Statement of Compelling Need for Delta-wide coordination and collaboration.

- “Facilitate” the initial forum for discussions between emergency response staff of local Delta entities to prepare a statement of compelling need for Delta-wide coordination and collaboration, consistent with input from local elected officials.
- If determined appropriate, pursuant to the above discussions: (1) draft a letter to local Delta entities, for Commission consideration, institutionalizing jurisdictional intent to participate in joint efforts of Delta-wide benefit relative to emergency preparedness and Response; and/or (2) prepare a draft letter, for Commission consideration, to the State Office of Emergency Services apprising the Deputy Director of Response and Recovery of the local interest in collaboration relative to emergency preparedness and response.
- “Facilitate” the initial forum for discussions between emergency response staff of local Delta entities to collaboratively seek funding opportunities for support of coordinated Delta emergency preparedness and response efforts.

Note that these actions demonstrate a minimal facilitation role of Commission staff to only initiate discussions and actions that would then become the responsibility of the local entities to implement. As was the case with facilitation of the Summit, there would be no expenditure of funding from the Commission’s budget for initiating these efforts. It is assumed that long-term facilitation would be supported through funding solicited by those local entities demonstrating a willingness to commit to Delta-wide collaboration relative to emergency preparedness and response.